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A.—The report received from the President of the South Arcot District Board on the subject is placed on the table.*

No report has yet been received from the President, District Board, Malabar. From the reports received from the other presidents of district boards it is found that all district boards except South Kanara have opened subsidiary toll-gates and must be deemed to have passed resolutions under clause (4) of section 104 of the Madras Local Boards Act, 1920.

Irrigation facilities in Vizagapatam district.

707 *Q.*—Mr. M. SURYANARAYANA: Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state—

(1) whether any report has been received from the Collector of Vizagapatam in regard to the irrigation facilities of the district referred to by the hon. the Revenue Member in his reply to Resolution No. 193, dated 19th January 1922; and

(2) whether the Government will be pleased to place the same on the table?

A.—(1) Yes.

(2) The report is placed on the table.†

Forest Panchayat courts in Vizagapatam district.

708 *Q.*—Mr. M. SURYANARAYANA: Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state—

(1) what is the extent of No. 5 reserved forests in each of the Government taluks in the Vizagapatam district; and

(2) whether there are any Forest panchayats in any of these Government taluks, and if so, in what places?

A.—There are no class V forests in the Vizagapatam district, nor are there any forest panchayats in the district.

Panchayat courts for civil and criminal cases in Vizagapatam district.

709 *Q.*—Mr. M. SURYANARAYANA: Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state—

(1) whether any panchayat courts have been constituted for the trial of civil suits under section 9 of the Village Courts Act in the district of Vizagapatam; if so, in what places; and

(2) whether any of these courts have been invested with criminal jurisdiction; if so, in what places?

A.—(1) The Government have sanctioned 121 panchayat courts of which 113 have been opened by 31st December last. A list will be furnished to the hon. Member.

(2) All the above panchayat courts have criminal powers at present.

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* Vide Appendix D on page 1291 infra. † Vide Appendix E on page 1291 infra.

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Mr. M. SURYANARAYANA :—"May I know if the criminal powers are actually exercised by the panchayats or are they merely latent?"

The hon. Sir K. SRINIVASA AYYANGAR :—"I suppose that when a court is invested with powers it would exercise them when occasion arose."

Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR :—"There seems to be some mistake in regard to this matter. An order has been issued by the Government empowering the panchayats to exercise criminal jurisdiction. But the courts are not so exercising and the magistrates deputed for the work originally are still going and disposing of the criminal cases. There seems to be some confusion. I may mention for example one particular case."

The hon. Sir K. SRINIVASA AYYANGAR :—"If the hon. Member can draw the attention of Government to any particular court, the Government can inquire into the matter."

Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR :—"I refer, Sir, to a village in Adoni taluk Kowtalam."

The hon. Sir K. SRINIVASA AYYANGAR :—"If the hon. Member will kindly give the information in writing, the matter can be considered."

APPENDIX A.

[Vide answer to question No. 677 asked by Khan Sahib Munshi Muhammad Abdur Rahman Sahib at the meeting of the Legislative Council held on the 29th January 1923, page 1275 supra.]

Statement showing the area disafforested and assigned in the Kuragallu reserve, Guntur district.

	ACS.
Total area disafforested	1,303·53
Extent assigned to distinguished soldiers ...	15·50
Extent assigned to sepoys	797·29
Extent assigned to depressed classes	340·45

N.B.—Information regarding the communities to which the assignees belong is not available.

APPENDIX B.

[Vide answer to question No. 681 asked by Khan Sahib Munshi Muhammad Abdur Rahman Sahib at the meeting of the Legislative Council held on the 29th January 1923, page 1277 supra.]

List of damage to permanent-way, rolling stock, etc.

I.—Damage to permanent-way.

12 Rails.
55 Steel sleepers.
24 Fish plates.
48 ,, bolts.
108 Steel keys.
790 One foot of bank badly damaged.
250 One foot bank undamaged but ballast washed out.

Estimated cost ... ... Rs. 5,000